Congress of the United States

House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515-4202

April 5, 2019

Chairwoman Anna Eshoo and Ranking Member Michael Burgess The Committee on Energy and Commerce Subcommittee on Health 2125 Rayburn House Office Building

Dear Chairwoman Eshoo and Ranking Member Burgess,

The high cost of prescription drugs places millions of Americans in difficult financial situations. The price of life-saving insulin increased nearly 20 percent each year between 2012 and 2016. That's nearly double the price in just five years. What's worse, the cost of insulin has tripled over the past decade, which is why I write to urge you and the subcommittee to investigate the spike in the price of this medication that was originally developed nearly a century ago.

Millions of Americans rely on insulin, and for many it is becoming cost prohibitive. This is also true of many other drugs that affect a large population with common diseases – including diabetes, high cholesterol and asthma – whose lives depend on medications that are readily available but inflated in price.

Access to life-saving medications is imperative and that is why it is so important to investigate these price increases. I respectfully urge you to begin this process, and I hope we can work together to address this issue.

Most respectfully,

Tim Burchett Member of Congress